

Trip Myers was going to turn fourteen on Saturday and his parents had agreed to let him have a birthday party at the beach. Trip sent out party invitations to every boy and girl in his class. The invitations said to meet at the big pier on Laguna Beach at ten o'clock on Saturday morning. Most of the people who received an invitation called Mrs. Myers to say they could come to the party.

Saturday morning Trip helped his mother and father load the station wagon with the food and drinks. They arrived at the pier before ten but there were already people there. Trip took the towels and floats out of the car, and he and his friends walked down to the beach to go swimming.

Soon it seemed the whole class was there, and Trip began to get hungry. Mom was making lunch and Dad called for them to get out of the ocean and come to eat. Trip motioned for his friends to get out of the water. They walked up to the picnic tables where Mother had placed the food. She had grilled hot dogs and had bowls of salad and chips, too. Everyone ate with a great appetite caused by the swimming.

Then Mother lit the candles on the birthday cake and began to sing "Happy Birthday" to Trip, and the others soon joined in the singing. Trip smiled and made a wish before he blew out the candles. His friends clapped, and Trip passed out the cake and ice cream as soon as mother could serve it.

After their lunch had settled, Mother allowed them to go back into the water with their floats to go swimming. The boys started playing volleyball in the water and the girls floated around on the floats, more concerned about their suntans.

At three o'clock Mother blew the whistle for them to get out of the water because it was time to go. Everyone thanked Trip and Mr. and Mrs. Myers for the wonderful birthday party. Trip waved goodbye to his friends and walked over to his parents to give them a hug for the best birthday party ever.

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